



SC-5285

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: M. Stavnes et al.

Serial No.: 09/054,986

Filed: April 3, 1998

For: Fuse Tube and Method
of Manufacture Thereof

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: S. Nolan

Attorney Docket: SC-5285

16 D
12-31-01

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT D

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of this application, please amend the accompanying 37 CFR
1.53(d) continued prosecution application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 36 as follows:

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DL

36. (thrice amended) A method of fabricating an arc-quenching tube via the winding of a first fiber in one or more winding passes, the method comprising winding the arc-quenching tube such that the first fiber lays flat and does not overlap in each of the one or more winding passes whereby uniformity is achieved in the thickness of the tube, the method further comprising forming a predetermined taper within the arc-quenching tube wherein the predetermined taper defines a minimum predetermined wall thickness of the tube, the uniformity being such that variations in the thickness of the tube are significantly less than the minimum predetermined wall thickness, the non-uniformity